

Application Serial No. 10/090,665
Docket No. 39861.0200
Response/Amendment dated September 27, 2004
Reply to Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed on September 23, 2004
Reply to Office Action mailed on June 30, 2004

REMARKS

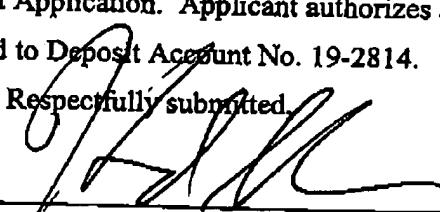
Applicant hereby replies to the Office Action mailed June 30, 2004, of which this reply is within the shortened three month period of reply. Claims 8, 9, 18, 19, 25, 26 and 30-33 were pending in the application. The Examiner allowed claims 8, 9, 18, 19, 25, 26 and 30-31, but rejected claims 32-33. No new matter is added by this amendment.

The Examiner rejects claim 32 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Cassell (4,155,970). The Examiner also rejects claim 33 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cassell (4,155,970). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections. However, to expedite prosecution of this case, Applicant cancels claims 32-33 without waiver or estoppel from filing one or more patent applications having claims with similar or identical subject matter. As such, the Examiner's rejections are now moot and the application is now in condition for allowance.

In view of the above remarks and amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims properly set forth that which Applicant regards as its invention and are allowable over the cited prior art. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the pending claims. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the Examiner's convenience, if that would help further prosecution of the subject Application. Applicant authorizes and respectfully requests that any fees due be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-2814.

Respectfully submitted,

By:


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Dated: September 27, 2004

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